

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of) **MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**
Alessandro Trequattrini et al.)
Application No.: 10/768,169) Group Art Unit: 3737
Filed: February 2, 2004) Examiner: Peter Luong
For: MAGNETIC RESONANCE) Confirmation No.: 5775
IMAGING APPARATUS)
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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated February 5, 2009, the following remarks are submitted.

The Official Action indicates that the claims in this application are directed to two different inventions. As identified in the Official Action, the two inventions are as follows:

Group I invention defined in Claims 1-118 and 139-151, drawn to a method and apparatus for magnetic resonance imaging.

Group II invention defined in Claims 119-138, drawn to a table for use with magnetic resonance imaging.

Based on the observation that the two inventions are distinct from one another, a restriction requirement has been imposed requiring an election of one of the two inventions. The Official Action also indicates that should Group I be elected, an election between two additional inventions as follows is required:

Group A invention defined in Claims 1-54, 61-82, 89-118 and 139-151, drawn to a method and apparatus for

magnetic resonance imaging in more than one orientation.

Group B invention defined in Claims 55-60 and 83-88, drawn to a method for magnetic resonance imaging wherein the patient is oriented horizontally.

Applicants hereby elect the Group A invention recited in Claims 1-54, 61-82, 89-118 and 139-151 drawn to a method and apparatus for magnetic resonance imaging in more than one orientation.

The Official Action also indicates that should Group A be elected, an election between the following species is required:

Species I- MRI apparatus comprising a table rotatable along its transverse apparatus.

Species II- MRI apparatus comprising a table rotatable along both transverse and longitudinal axes.

Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, Species I corresponding to an MRI apparatus comprising a table rotatable along its transverse apparatus. Applicants submit that at least Claims 1-8, 12-54, 61-66, 74-82, 89-93, 103-110, 112-118 and 139-151 read on the elected Species. The election of Species I is made with traverse because it is believed that the search required for the non-elected species would be substantially coextensive with the search associated with the elected species.

Should any questions arise concerning this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: March 5, 2009

By: /Peter T. deVore/
Peter T. deVore
Registration No. 60361

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404
703 836 6620